

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-12 and 15-19 remain active in this application, Claims 1-4, 13 and 14 having been previously canceled without prejudice.

In the outstanding Office Action, the abstract of the disclosure was objected to because it is not a single paragraph and because it exceeds 150 words in length. Claims 5-12 and 15-19 were allowable over the prior art of record.

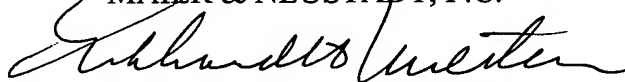
First, Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that Claims 5-12 and 15-19 were allowed.

In response to the objections to the abstract of the disclosure, the new abstract has been entered replacing the original abstract. Thus, no further issues on the matter is believed to be outstanding.

In view of the amendments and discussions presented above, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)